

RCM

ZZ ZB
RNR143 BB15
MIDEAST-OIL (SCHEDULED)
BY FRED BRIDGLAND

TEHERAN, IRAN, NON. 9, REUTER -- SAUDI ARABIA'S KING FAISAL IS TAKING A HARD LINE ON RESUMPTION OF OIL SUPPLIES TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE PRESENT BOYCOTT COULD GO ON FOR SOME TIME YET, AMERICAN SOURCES SAID TODAY.

THE SOURCES SAID ABOARD THE JET IN WHICH HENRY KISSINGER IS TOURING NORTH AFRICAN AND MIDDLE AND FAR EASTERN CAPITALS THAT AFTER THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE'S TALKS YESTERDAY IN THE SAUDI CAPITAL, RIYADH, THEY UNDERSTOOD THAT KING FAISAL DID NOT INTEND TO LIFT THE BOYCOTT BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

IF NECESSARY, THE BOYCOTT COULD GO ON FOR YEARS, THE SOURCES SAID.

THE SOURCES WERE SPEAKING SHORTLY AFTER THE ARRIVAL HERE TODAY FROM RIYADH OF KISSINGER'S SPECIAL U.S. AIR FORCE BOEING 707. AFTER A BRIEF VISIT AND TALKS WITH THE SHAH OF IRAN, KISSINGER LEFT FOR PAKISTAN.

THE SOURCES SAID THAT IN ANY CASE, WHEN THE NEW U.S. AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA, JAMES AKINS, PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO KING FAISAL EARLIER THIS WEEK HE WAS TOLD THAT THE BOYCOTT AGAINST THE U.S. WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL ISRAELI TROOPS HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN BEHIND THE PRE-1967 CEASEFIRE LINES.
MORE JCK/BC1427

ZZZB
RNR144 BB16
MIDEAST -OIL 2 TEHERAN:

THE U.S. HAS BEEN LOOKING TOWARD SAUDI ARABIA AS A MAJOR SOURCE OF FUTURE OIL SUPPLIES AND HAS A HUGE STAKE IN THE DESERT KINGDOMS OIL. THE ARABIAN-AMERICAN OIL CO. (ARAMCO), WHICH IS ENTIRELY AMERICAN OWNED, CURRENTLY CONTROLS ALL OF SAUDI ARABIA'S PRODUCTION.

SAUDI ARABIA IS THE WORLD'S BIGGEST OIL PRODUCER AND HAS THE LARGEST RESERVES--POSSIBLY 25 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S PROVEN OIL RESERVES.

THE SOURCES SAID IT WAS NOT CLEAR HOW FIRMLY THE SAUDI KING WOULD INSIST ON A TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL BEHIND THE 1967 LINES. BUT THE SOURCES SAID THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT KING FAISAL WAS VERY ANGRY WITH WASHINGTON, ESPECIALLY OVER THE DECISION TO BOOST ARMS SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL DURING THE RECENT WAR.

THERE IS PROBABLY NO ARAB COUNTRY WHERE THE U.S. HAS GREATER LONG TERM INTERESTS. KING FAISAL HAS BEEN OPENLY PRO-WEST AND IS SO IMPLACABLY OPPOSED TO COMMUNISM THAT HE MAINTAINS NO RELATIONS WITH ANY COMMUNIST COUNTRY.

REUTER JCK/BC1430